

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 044662 POSS DUPE
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 AID-05 /076 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:R F OBER, JR:DIW
APPROVED BY NEA/INS:D KUX
NEA/P - G SHERMAN

-----011213 084002 /14

R 010025Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 044662

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT:PRESS GUIDANCE ON RECENT TORTURE ALLEGATIONS

1. FOLLOWING Q'S AND A'S WERE PREPARED FOR THE DEPART-
MENT'S NOON BRIEFING FEBRUARY 25 IN EVENT QUESTIONS WERE
ASKED ABOUT JACK ANDERSON STORY IN WASHINGTON POST
THE SAME DAY ALLEGING LARGE-SCALE TORTURE AND MALTREATMENT
OF PRISONERS UNDER THE EMERGENCY. ANDERSON CITED INFOR-
MATION GAINED FROM SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY AS WELL AS TWO OF HIS
OWN REPORTERS, ONE OF WHOM TRAVELLED ABOUT INDIA WITHOUT
ACKNOWLEDGING WHO HE WAS. NO QUESTIONS WERE ASKED.

2. Q - WHAT DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THE
JACK ANDERSON STORY IN TODAY'S WASHINGTON POST ABOUT
CONDITIONS UNDER THE INDIAN EMERGENCY? WHY AREN'T WE
TAKING A TOUGH STAND ON INDIA THE WAY WE ARE ON OTHER
COUNTRIES?

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 044662 POSS DUPE

A - BOTH THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY HAVE MADE CLEAR
THAT THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT CONDONE VIOLATIONS OF
HUMAN RIGHTS, WHEREVER THEY OCCUR. OF COURSE, THAT
INCLUDES INDIA.

-- REGARDING THE CURRENT INDIAN SITUATION, ON

JANUARY 18 PRIME MINISTER GANDHI SIGNALLED A MAJOR CHANGE IN DIRECTION, CALLING FOR A GENERAL ELECTION IN MID-MARCH, RELEASING POLITICAL PRISONERS AND REMOVING PRESS CENSORSHIP.

-- PRESIDENT CARTER HAS WELCOMED THESE STEPS TOWARD THE RETURN OF THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM IN INDIA.

Q -- WHAT ABOUT THE STORIES OF TORTURE? ARE THEY TRUE?

A -- WE HEARD SOME ALLEGATIONS ABOUT HARSH TREATMENT OF PRISONERS UNDER THE EMERGENCY, BUT HAVE NO CONFIRMATION. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, DEPLORE SUCH ACTIONS.

Q -- WHAT'S THE SITUATION ON POLITICAL PRISONERS?

A -- WE DON'T HAVE ALL THE FACTS, BUT DO KNOW THAT MOST FORMER PRISONERS ARE OUT, INCLUDING MANY OPPOSITION CANDIDATES.

Q -- WHAT'S THE SITUATION ON AID TO INDIA? WAS INDIA CUT OUT BECAUSE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION?

A -- IN FY'77 WE ARE CONTINUING A PL 480 PROGRAM (ABOUT \$125 MILLION) AND ARE PLANNING FOR ONE IN FY'78.
-- REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AID, WE HAVE NOT HAD A PROGRAM SINCE 1971, AND THERE ARE NO FUNDS IN THE FY'78 BUDGET FOR SUCH A PROGRAM. THE QUESTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THEREFORE, DID NOT ARISE IN THIS REGARD.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 044662 POSS DUPE

VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, BRIEFING MATERIALS, ALLEGATIONS, EMERGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE044662
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: R F OBER, JR:DIW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770070-0064
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703104/aaaadokg.tel
Line Count: 98
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c4f827ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2949304
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS GUIDANCE ON RECENT TORTURE ALLEGATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, IN
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c4f827ad-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009